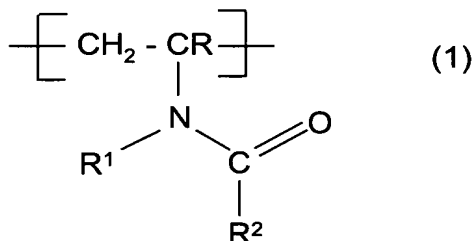


Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of concentrates in liquid or liquid-disperse form comprising

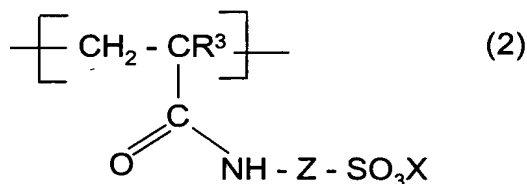
l) 10 to 80% by weight of a copolymer comprising

a) 1 to 50% by weight of a repeat structural unit of the formula (1)



where R, R¹ and R² ~~may be~~ are identical or different and are hydrogen, a linear or branched alkyl group having in each case 1 to 30 carbon atoms, ~~or a linear or branched alkenyl group having in each case 2 to 30 carbon atoms, or R¹ and R² together are a C₂-C₉-alkylene group,~~

b) 49.99 to 98.99% by weight of the repeat structural unit of the formula (2)



in which R³ is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl, Z is C₁-C₈-alkylene and X is an ammonium, alkali metal or alkaline earth metal ion, and

c) 0.01 to 8% by weight of crosslinking structures ~~which have come~~formed from monomers with at least two olefinic double bonds,

II) 20 to 90% by weight of one or more emulsifiers ~~and/or a solvent, or solvent mixture~~ or mixtures thereof, and

III) 0 to 30% by weight of water,

wherein the concentrate is ~~prepared by~~made by a process comprising the steps of

a) ~~free-radical copolymerization of~~ free radically copolymerizing the components a), b) and c) in a polymerization medium which behaves largely inertly with regard to free-radical polymerization reactions and permits the formation of high molecular weights,

b) adding a higher-boiling solvent, or solvent mixture, and/or one or more emulsifiers and mixtures thereof ~~and optionally water is added to the mixture of polymer and polymerization medium, where the boiling point of the higher-boiling solvent or solvent mixture is at least 10°C higher than that of the polymerization medium used for the polymerization and~~

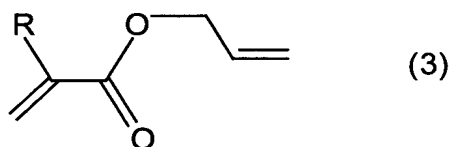
c) removing the lower-boiling polymerization medium is removed, optionally at a pressure which is lowered relative to atmospheric pressure, and optionally at a temperature which is increased relative to room temperature.

2. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the copolymer ~~consists of~~comprises 2 to 30% by weight of structural units of the formula (1), ~~preferably derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone, 69.5 to 97.5% by weight of structural units of the general formula (2), preferably derived from the ammonium salt of 2-acrylamide-2-methylpropanesulfonic acid and 0.2 to 3% by weight of crosslinking~~

structures ~~which have come~~ formed from monomers with at least two olefinic double bonds.

3. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~claim 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein the copolymer has crosslinking structures ~~which have come~~ formed from monomers with at least two olefinic double bonds and are derived from acrylic or methacrylic allyl ester, dipropylene glycol diallyl ether, polyglycol diallyl ether, triethylene glycol divinyl ether, hydroquinone diallyl ether, tetraallyloxyethane, ~~or other~~ allyl or vinyl ethers of multifunctional alcohols, tetraethylene glycol diacrylate, triallylamine, trimethylolpropane diallyl ether, methylenebisacrylamide or divinylbenzene.

4. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the copolymer has crosslinking structures derived from monomers of the formula (3),



in which R is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl.

5. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the concentrate comprises 20 to 60% by weight of ~~copolymer~~ the copolymer.

6. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein the concentrate comprises 30 to 80% by weight of the one or more emulsifiers, and/or a solvent, or solvent mixture or mixtures thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 10, wherein the concentrate comprises 0 to 10% by weight of water.

8. (Currently Amended) A concentrate ~~obtainable~~ made by a process as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1.

9. (Original) A cosmetic, pharmaceutical or dermatological preparation comprising a concentrate as claimed in claim 8.

10. (New) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adding step further comprises adding water to the polymer and polymerization medium.

11. (New) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the removing step further comprises removing the polymerization medium at pressure lower than atmospheric pressure.

12. (New) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the removing step further comprises removing the polymerization medium at a temperature greater than room temperature.

13. (New) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the structural units of the formula (I) are derived from N-vinylpyrrolidone.

14. (New) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the structural units of the formula (2) are derived from ammonium salt of 2-acrylamino-2-methylpropanesulfonic acid.